

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208752

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USINT CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS IN EGYPT

REF: ATHENS 7339

1. WE APPRECIATE SHIP OWNER EFTHYMIADES' CONTINUING
COOPERATION AND OFFER TO REBUNK KNOSSOS IMMEDIATELY
UPON ARRIVAL ATHENS AND TO UNDERTAKE SAIL FOR VICINITY
OF CRETE AND AWAIT DEVELOPMENTS. BASED ON THE ASSURANCE
THAT SHIP WOULD BE ABLE TO SAIL QUICKLY FROM ATHENS,
DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT BEST ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE FOR
KNOSSOS TO STAND BY AT PIRAEUS FOR IMMEDIATE SAILING
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SHOULD SITUATION REQUIRE. FYI: WE ASSUME

THAT IT WOULD TAKE CAIRO AT LEAST AS LONG TO ARRANGE FOR EVACUATION TO ALEXANDRIA AS IT WOULD FOR KNOSSOS TO SAIL THERE.

2. IF SITUATION WORSENS DURING WEEKEND WE MAY REQUEST KNOSSOS TO BEGIN CRUISE IN VICINITY CRETE ON SHORT NOTICE SHOULD EVACUATION FROM EGYPT APPEAR TO BE IMMINENT AND IF SUCH POSITIONING OFFERS TIME ADVANTAGE.

3. WE ALSO APPRECIATE KNOWING THAT KNOSSOS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN CONNECTION WITH CYPRUS SAILING ON MONDAY. HOWEVER, CIRCUMSTANCES COULD DICTATE THAT WE RETAIN IT ON STANDBY IN PIRAEUS. IF THIS WERE TO OCCUR, WILL OWNER

COMPLY AND WHAT WOULD CONDITIONS AND CHARGES BE FOR ARRANGEMENTS?

4. APPRECIATE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON S.S. ARKADI. FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE THIS SHIP TO SAIL IF IT WERE NEEDED IN PLACE OF KNOSSOS OR AS SECOND SHIP. RUSH

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